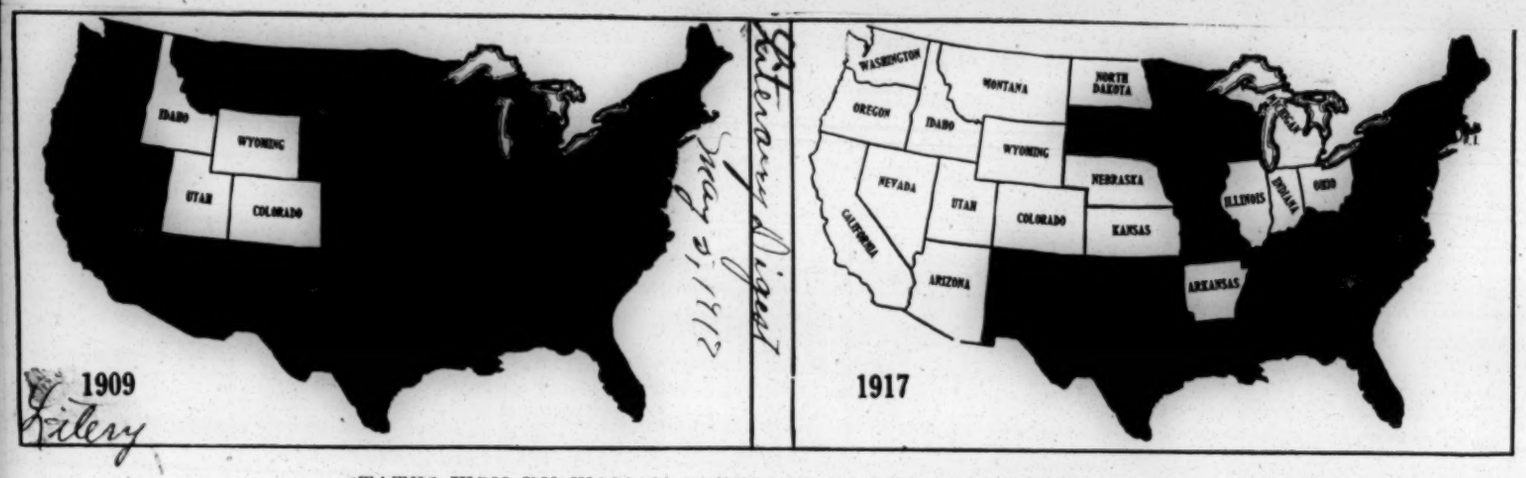
Temperance – 1917



STATES WON BY WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN THE LAST EIGHT YEARS.

In these diagrams the suffrage States are white. The women in Illinois, North Dakota, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Nebraska, and Rhode Island have Presidential suffrage, and in Arkansas they can vote only at the primaries. In the other white States they have complete suffrage.

THE ILL WIND OF PROHIBITION

The colored citizens of the country may selfishly rejoice in the passing by Congress of the Prohibition Amendment. They selfishly and properly rejoice at all legislation which will tend to centralize authority in the National Government. They live now and will continue to live for the most part in the ex-slave-holding States Rights Commonwealths of the South. So long as that remains the condition to be faced patriots should rejoice at any measure that will tend to break that yet unbroken, brutal and rebellious spirit of the Southern States. They have never yet come quite completely into the Union. Nor do they intend such harmony so long as by that action they would consciously remove their strangle hold upon the bugbear of race equality.

Among primitive peoples, says Bagehot, the quantity of government is more important than the quality. Bagehot had in mind just such anarchies as Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi and the Russia of 1917. If national Prohibition, as the New York World so rightfully decries, means a greater quantity of government for the Southern States then more power to Prohibition. We are pained to see the otherwise stalwart human rights organ so scathingly fearsome on this very score. If Prohibition will mean the destruction of the "spurious democracy of the South," then the World justifies Prohibition in the highest degree as the great solvent of the race question, as the political salvation of the Republic. The World says, in its angry editorial of Tuesday:

> For the vote in Congress and for the expectation of legislative action sustaining it we have to thank the Southern States. In the interest of negro slavery, supported by an extreme expression of State sovereignity, they once involved the country in a wicked war. In behalf of negro sobriety, or whatever it may be called, they now by unexampled majorities decree the destruction of the States and the creation at Washington of a centralized power over the habits of the people such as the Republic never has known.
>
> There will be a settlement between the true democracy of the North and the spurious democracy of the South on this issue, and it will go to the roots of things. If it had not been for Northern Democrats the Southern States would have been conquered provinces to-day, without influence at Washington. The spirit long ago defeated in force bills and even in constitutional amendments is still alive. It will manifest itself next in the Woman Suffrage Amendment, and if Woman Suffrage comes it is certain that it will call black men as well as black women to the polls. South no less than North.
>
> Prohibition forced by the South upon the North means, as slavery and secession did, the disruption of the Democratic Party. It comes at a time when we are preparing an awful sacrifice of life and treasure in vindication of the very democratic principle which Prohibition, imposed by autocratic power, assails, and has as its inspiration the same disregard of individual rights that a handful of slave-owners manifested when they set a free people at each other's throats to maintain their "peculiar institution."

The "disruption of the Democratic party" does not outweigh the factor of political equality for all men in the equation of human rights and the preservation of the Republic. If Prohibition will add to this grand consummation then it is an ill wind which would blow a race and nation good.

RECORD

Philadelphia, Pa.

Mar 10 17

WOULD MAKE NEGROES "DRY"

W. C. T. U. to Start Work Among Colored People Here.

A campaign on the part of the W. C. T. U. among the colored people of this city will be inaugurated Sunday morning at the John Wesley A. M. E. Church, Forty-sixth and Aspen streets. Mrs. E. E. Peterson, national superintendent of Work Among Colored People, will be the speaker.

Mrs. Peterson recently arrived in this city from Texarkana, Tex., at the request of the union to carry on this campaign, which will end on March 20. She will also speak at the Campbell A. M. E. Church, Kinsey and Paul streets, Frankford, in the afternoon, and at the Jeanes A. M. E. Church, East Haines street, Germantown, during the evening.

REGISTER

MOBILE, ALA.

MAR 25 1917

COLORED WOMAN TO GIVE LECTURE HERE

Victoria Cla[illegible] Haley of St. Louis, national organizer of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, is in the city in the interest of the organization, and will lecture at State-street A. M. E. Z. Church this afternoon at 3 o'clock. No admission fee will be charged. The lecture is under the auspices of the colored women's clubs of this city.

THE GEORGIA LEGISLATURE AND PROHIBITION.

Atlanta Independent

The extra session of the Georgia Legislature began last Tuesday for the purpose of enacting a "Bone Dry" prohibition law. Most of the members of the General Assembly met the Governor in the Kimball House and outlined the principal provision of the bill to be acted upon by the Legislature. Briefly summarizing the provision:

To prohibit any concern or individual having in its or his possession, at home or elsewhere, any liquor or anything intoxicating whatsoever.

To the foregoing provisions are exceptions enumerated below.

A druggist, pharmacist or manufacturer may import pure alcohol in any quantity upon obtaining a permit from the county ordinary, the application for which must set forth upon oath the purpose for which the alcohol is to be used and must bear the indorsement of two reputable citizens. Another shipment may be secured only upon exhaustion of the former supply and the presentation to the ordinary of evidence that the former supply has been used for the purpose for which it was ordered.

Wine for Sacrament.

Upon permit from the ordinary, a church, through a minister, priest or board, may obtain sufficient wine for the holy sacrament, but may receive only one such supply per month. In case of violation of the law, first offense is a misdemeaonor and second offense is a felony.

The bill provides that the commissioner of commerce and labor of the state shall serve as prohibition commissioner, for a salary of $1,200, and that this salary shall be provided for by adding ten per cent to costs in all convictions under this act. If this additional ten per cent does not provide sufficient money, the commissioner of prohibition is the loser; if it provides more than $1,200 per year, the balance goes into the state treasury.

The former shipping law is repealed.

The committee met immediately after the adjournment of the conference and made two amendments to the bill.

One of these amendments provides for the confiscation of any property or vehicle used for the hauling of prohibited liquors, upon which confiscation the said property or vehicle shall be sold and the proceeds go to the common treasury of the county in which the case is brought.

We have always contended, that if the state means to have prohibition,

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 7

to have it indeed and in fact. We have always had our doubts as to whether it would be enforced, because a great many of those who preach

Incomplete
Lit. Digest 4/18/17

PROHIBITIONIST "HELP" IN WAR

WHILE THE RESTRICTIONS PLACED upon the liquor traffic in England and Russia were hailed by our press as earnests of greater effectiveness in the prosecution of the war, there are editorial observers who see in the Senate's passage of the Sheppard resolution a serious menace to our own war-time morale and efficiency. For this resolution, adopted in the Senate by a vote of 65 to 20, and shelved in the House until the regular session in December, provides for the submission to the States of an amendment to the national Constitution forbidding the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors in the United States. "If the House approves the Senate proposition, as it likely will when a vote is taken," says the Columbus *Dispatch*, "we shall have a series of great prohibition campaigns throughout the country—the Armageddon of booze, if you please." Thus there will be engendered, the Dallas *News* predicts, "the animosities of a social warfare," and "a nation which is engaged in a military warfare of the magnitude and moment of the one we are engaged in has reason to fear the consequences of a social warfare." Colonel Henry Watterson's Louisville *Courier-Journal* is also convinced that the Senate's course tends to weaken the nation for war, and it foresees the nation rent by a "six years' orgy of passion and contention." We have hardly begun an enterprise requiring our utmost resources and sacrifices, remarks the New York *Times*, when the Senate asks us to "fritter away our time in futile discussion, to turn the country into a debating club, to divide and distract the public mind, which should be, and must be, concentrated on the war." Speaking for New Jersey, the Newark *News* suggests that perhaps the most thoroughly sensible thing to be done with the prohibition amendment, which must be ratified by the State legislature, would be to take full advantage of the six-year clause in the resolution and defer consideration of it until after the war. This would be a patriotic course "to avoid the possibility of spiritual disunion," which the intense personal feeling concerning the liquor question would almost certainly create, "especially in those industrial districts where a continuous and steady operation is vitally necessary for the conduct of the war." And this journal adds: "We do not think that we exaggerate to say that there are sections where the prohibition issue as a political matter would submerge entirely the question of the war."

On the other hand, the Indianapolis *News* thinks that "many Senators were influenced by a strong desire to clear the decks for such measures as the food bill and other war-measures into which the prohibition question might have entered," and the Baltimore *Sun* agrees that "for war-reasons it is wise to remove this question from the forum of Congressional discussion and allow it to come up on its merits in the various States of the Union." Of striking interest is the novelty of the provision in the resolution which requires that the necessary three-quarters votes of the States must be taken within six years, otherwise the resolution becomes inoperative. This provision raises the question of the constitutionality of the resolution in some minds, and the Springfield *Republican* calls it "a rather fine point." The Board of Temperance bulletin of the Methodist Episcopal Church (Washington) calls the six-year provision "revolutionary" and predicts that it will probably be subjected to "very close scrutiny" in the House. The press remind us that the resolution does not require the signature of the President if passed by the House, as it is a joint product of Senate and House conferees. If the House accepts it, the resolution has the effect of a law. As quoted in news dispatches, it reads in part:

"Section 1—The manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territories subject to the jurisdiction thereof, for beverage purposes, is hereby prohibited.

"Section 2—This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within six years from the date of the submission thereof to the States by the Congress.

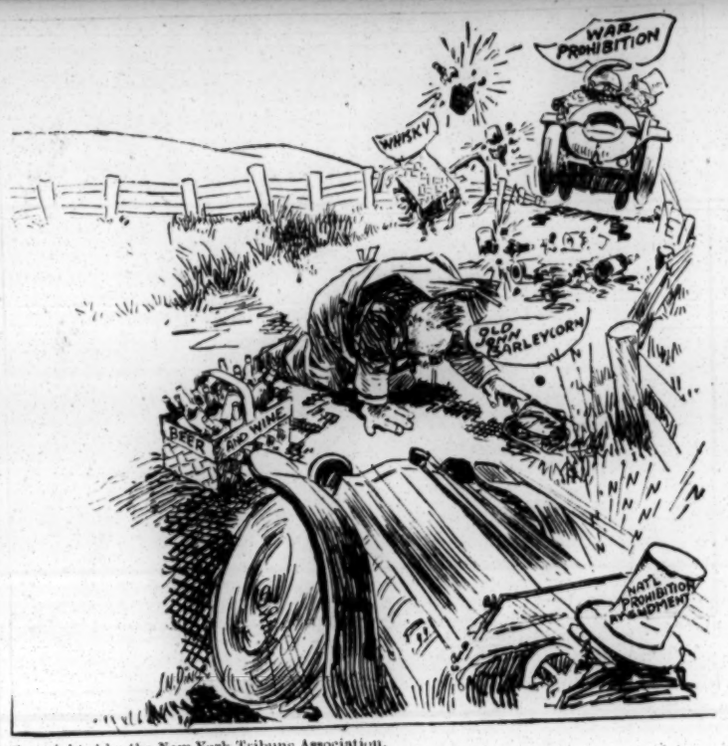
"Section 3—The Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

The remarkable victory of prohibition in the Senate, says the Chicago *Herald*, was swiftly followed by the equally remarkable decision of the dry leaders not to put the amendment resolution to an immediate vote in the House. The postponement until the regular session of Congress was on its face not an evidence of a lack of prohibition strength, according to this journal, which reminds us that previously the House has been more favorable than the Senate to the cause of the drys. Of the wisdom of the dry leaders' decision to make this "strategic retirement" the antiliquor generals should be the most competent judges, according to *The Herald*, which adds:

"They may, none the less, recall that the income-tax amendment proclaimed in February, 1913, required only four years for the journey through Congress and the legislatures. The direct election of Senators became a part of the basic law within less than two years after the resolution was adopted by Congress. Prohibition sentiment is at least as active as public opinion upon these earlier questions.

"Twenty-eight of the States, only eight less than the majority needed, already have prohibition of varying degrees of intensity. Numerous others are partially dry. Nineteen of these States have been gained since September 1, 1914. The progress of the movement was never stronger. The six-year provision would therefore seem to be fair. If national prohibition is coming, as now appears inevitable, the issue should be decided as quickly as possible. That is simple justice."

The "last days for booze" are here, says the Kansas City *Star*, which tells us that "the lesson which the war has made plain has been sinking into the national consciousness for years." Drink has been the foe of industry, as it is now known to be the foe of efficiency in the war. The economics of the "booze question" have come to the front and finally forced the issue to a vote in Congress. The comfortable majority over the necessary two-thirds vote by which the Senate passed the Sheppard resolution, says the Pittsburg *Chronicle*, is "most heartening to advocates of the cause," for tho the reform "may be delayed, and indeed its consummation must be a matter of a few years at least, ultimate triumph is practically assured."



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LOOK OUT, MISTER! HERE COMES ANOTHER!
—Darling in the New York *Tribune*.

Temperance - 1917

HOUSTON OBSERVER WINS MOST NOTABLE VICTORY

12-8-17

CITY COUNCIL ENACTED AN ORDINANCE MONDAY EVENING "RESTRICTING ALL BEER AND WHISKEY SALOONS TO THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT" — LAW GOES INTO EFFECT JANUARY 1, 1918—THE OBSERVER FOUGHT THOSE INSTITUTIONS SINGLE-HANDED — COLORED CITIZENS ARE JUBILANT AND HAVE BEEN UNSTINTED IN THEIR PRAISE OF THE OBSERVER'S BOLD AND SUCCESSFUL FIGHT FOR WHOLESOME SURROUNDINGS AND ENVIRONMENTS. Houston Observer.

City Officials Deserve Unanimous Praise

This Patriotic and Humanitarian Act on Their Part Removes Practically Two Hundred and Seventy-five Beer Joints and Ward Saloons From the Face of Our Homes, Churches and Schools—An All Together Pull For a Greater and Grander Houston Should be the Slogan of all the Citizens, Irrespective of Racial, Religious or Political Distinctions, Beliefs and Affiliations

"Right is right since God is God,
And *right the day must win;*
To doubt would be disloyalty,
To falter would be sin."

Ever bearing the above historic and memorable verse in mind, The Observer has for the last several months waged a bitter and stubborn battle against those insidious and infernal institutions, known as ward beer joints and saloons and has shown without fear of successful contradiction the irreparable and irretrievable harm and injury they are rendering unto the citizens of this municipality of both races, but particularly our race, since practically all of them are located in the very doors of our homes, churches and schools.

The Observer has and ever will have undaunted faith in God and believes that in due season He will reveal Himself unto those who trust in Him and do His bidding. Our motto is: "Be sure you are right and then go ahead."

The city council at its meeting Monday afternoon enacted an ordinance, in response to the pleas and prayers of The Observer, removing all saloons from the residential districts and restricting them to the downtown district, which becomes operative January 1, 1918. According to the latest figures this law will mean either the removal or wiping out of approximately 275 to 285 beer joints and whiskey saloons now thriving at our expense almost entirely, most of them being situated in our residence sections.

This is a noteworthy and remarkable triumph and victory for good and clean government and proves conclusively that the city officials can rise above petty politics and prevent a great disaster and catastrophe happening to our proud city.

The colored citizens should thank God for our liberation from the clutches of this most damnable and diabolical foe to our moral, social, religious, educational and economic progress and welfare.

The ordinance was introduced by Mayor J. C. Hutcheson, Jr., and was unanimously adopted by Commissioners Matt Drennan, Dan Moody, H. A. Halverton and Dave Fitzgerald. Not a dissenting vote was recorded and The Observer doffs its sky-piece to these custodians of public welfare.

The only exceptions cited in the ordinance are: Houston Country Club, Saengerbund Club, Houston Launch Club and Lemp's office on Harrisburg Road. The breweries are within the prescribed area.

Under state statute, any dealer selling liquor outside this zone is guilty of a felony and may be sent to prison for from one to three years.

After January 1, 1918, booze and its kindred allies and by-products can only be sold within the following district, excepting exemptions cited hereinbefore:

"Beginning at the west line of Crawford street at a point 125 feet south of the intersection of Crawford street with McKinney avenue, such point of intersection being the northeast corner of block No. 127 on the south side of Buffalo bayou in said city of Houston, Harris county, Texas; thence from said point of beginning at right angles in a westwardly direction to a point 125 feet south of the south line of said McKinney avenue and 125 feet east of the east line of Smith street; thence at right angles in a northwardly direction to a point in the center of block 41 on the south side of Buffalo bayou; thence at right angles in a westwardly direction and parallel with Preston avenue to a point 125 feet south of the intersection of Preston avenue and Washington avenue; thence in a line 125 feet south of the south line of Washington avenue, and parallel with said avenue to a point opposite a point where the center line of Silver street intersects the north line of Washington avenue; thence in a northerly direction to a point in the center of Silver street, 125 feet north of the north line of Washington avenue; thence easterly in a line 125 feet north of the north line of Washington avenue and parallel therewith to a point in the center of Fifth street; thence in a northerly direction along the center of Fifth street to the center line of the main line of the Southern Pacific track on Railroad street; thence east along the center of Railroad street to the east line of Third street; thence in a northerly direction at right angles along the west side of block 12 on the north side of Buffalo bayou; to the south line of Girard street; thence in an easterly direction along the south line of Girard street and the north line of said block 12 and block 9 to a point on said line 100 feet west of the northeast corner of said block 9 on the north side of Buffalo bayou; thence in a southerly direction at right angles through said block 9 to the center line of Commerce avenue; thence in an easterly direction along the center line of Commerce avenue to the west line of Crawford street; thence at right angles along the west line of Crawford street to the place of beginning."

DOES PROHIBITION PROHIBIT?

9 Jan. 4, 1918

With the sweeping enactment of "one dry" legislation in many of the Southern States, the old question "Does Prohibition Prohibit?" takes on new significance. According to the investigation of a wide-awake newspaper man in North Carolina, the situation in his town under State-wide prohibitory laws is as follows:

Whiskey now sells for $5.00 a quart in Elizabeth City and it is hard to find a quart at that price. But you can buy essence of ginger which contains 93 per cent, pure alcohol at 15 cents a drink and you can buy Bateman's drops containing 48 per cent alcohol and two grains of opium at 10 cents a drink. If the dealer is out of Bateman's Drops, then you can get a bottle of paregoric which contains about the same amount of alcohol and opium for the same money, 10 cents a drink.

He adds that the police, sheriff and Federal authorities could break up this traffic in liquor substitutes in thirty days. But the outstanding fact is that there must be more than statutory laws to make prohibition effective. There must be a live forceful public sentiment behind the law, making its enforcement obligatory and stamping out all substitutes. Unless public sentiment is educated up to the point of appreciating the necessity of abandoning the use of alcoholic beverages entirely, the law will continue to be evaded.

Prohibition advocates should not cease their efforts with putting a law on the statute book, but they should continue a campaign of edu-

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 7

cation to show why the law should be enforced.

LET THE "BOOZE BOYS" EXPLAIN!

The Houston Observer. 8/18/17

Both the Negro and white pros have challenged the antis for a joint debate on the liquor question.

Thus far the booze side has not possessed enough courage to even answer the challenge.

They are attempting to treat our defis with silent contempt, but let them beware!

If they honestly and frankly believed that they were right there would have been no hesitancy at all on their part in accepting or even challenging us.

Having no decent and respectable argument to offer to sustain them and substantiate their position, perhaps they are demonstrating the calibre of their noodle by remaining silent.

But the antis in black were the first to pull that "stuff" on us and after we openly challenged them they forthwith demonstrated their fish-like qualities by craw-fishing and shutting up like a clam.

Let them trot out their forensic orators and prolific and highly paid luminaries and potentates of the camp of John Barleycorn and King Alcohol.

Let them tell what led Clarence Cooley to the hangman's noose at the age of 21 years.

Let them explain Surgeon General William Gorgas' position, who said: "The farther we keep our soldiers from alcohol the better for them and for the country they serve. I am in favor of eliminating alcohol from the army altogether."

Perhaps these gentlemen can tell why the brewieries recently added a dollar to every barrel of beer for raising the campaign fund.

Why are men, who are selling brewery products, in favor of prohibition?

Why are life-long antis flocking into our camp?

Why did they use men's names on their official roster, who never authorized their names thereon?

Being philosophers, sages and seers, it will be up to them to explain how saloons promote domestic felicity.

Being statisticians, they can figure out why in wet Dallas county the county tax rate is 92 cents on the $100, while in dry Collins and Ellis, on the north and south, respectively, it is only 82½ cents and 71 cents.

Since strong drink is so beneficial and remedial, these scientists and doctors will authorize booze instead of water.

Let these celebrites expostulate on the virtues of strong drink in the home after hearing Judge J. D. Harvey of the civil district court say that a large majority of the divorces were the result of drink.

Let them disprove booze's connection with crime and thereby prove that District Attorney Crooker is not backed up with facts and was not justified in leaving their side of the question.

They will also give the facts concerning their receiving money in cash and never in checks, from heads of the octopus.

Permit them to give an answer for desiring Dago beer dens and crime incubators in their very front doors, where their wives and children receive insult added to insult.

Let them show one good thing booze has ever accomplished for moral and social uplift.

Let them tell why the breweries pay the poll taxes for hundreds of Negroes in this state and why some of them are employed to tour the state and urge and pay poll taxes for race men

Gentlemen, if you are conscientious and honest in your position you would have accepted our challenge and let the people decide for themselves after hearing a joint debate.

But since your good sense and conscience would not permit you to debate the question, the voters have decided that you have no sane, sober and reasonable reasons to offer in favor of the open saloon and they are going to the polls Tuesday, August 21, and hit your cause a solar plexus blow.

A few more days remain for you to explain or become extinct; repent or resign yourself to the inevitable, viz: the abolition of the liquor traffic.

THAT PRO VICTORY IN DALLAS.

Once more the prohibitionists of this State have just cause to rejoice in this our latest victory. 9-15-17

According to the recent figures, Dallas has a population estimated at 160,000 and is said to be the largest city in America that ever went dry via the local option route.

The man who cannot see the handwriting on the wall for the liquor traffic is blind to the trend of the present day along moral and economic lines. Houston Observer

The Observer's only regret is that once more Houston has permitted Dallas to set the pace along a progressive line.

Not being satisfied with winning the Texas League pennant and nabbing the federal reserve bank and other mammoth mercantile institutions, these inhabitants of this great Texas city went Houston one better by walloping the liquor traffic.

What Dallas has done other communities and cities can and must do.

The food bill provides that no more whiskey will be manufactured in this country during the present war, which shows that booze is not a necessity and is detrimental to mankind.

Houston made her first attempt at a local option election and while we were not successful like Dallas, we were successful in reducing the ranks of the antis by practically 3000 votes.

It will be up to the officers of Dallas county to see to it that the prohibition laws are upheld in the county and all who violate the law should be given the severest penalty.

This pro victory will affect about 200 saloons and several of the largest wholesale liquor houses in the Southwest.

Before going dry Dallas had one good law, which this city and all others in the same boat need, viz: ALL SALOONS, BOTH WHISKEY AND BEER, WERE RESTRICTED TO THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT.

Harris county did not go dry, but it does not particularly need an election to pass a similar ordinance in this city and petitions are now being circulated asking the mayor and city commissioners to RESTRICT ALL SALOONS AND BEER JOINTS TO THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT.

MRS. E. E. PETERSON'S PLEA FOR PROHIBITION MEETS HEARTY RESPONSE

The Dallas Express 8/4/17

Mrs. Eliza E. Peterson, National Superintendent of W. C. T. U. Work among Colored people, recently filled three months' engagements in Pensylvania, where W. C. T. U. women of both races made her work of lecturing, organizing unions and distributing free literature most profitable. Immediately upon her return to Texarkana, Ark., Texas, she planned a trip to seven summer normals, one in Shreveport, La., and six in Texas, where she spoke to 700 teachers and gave out 200 pounds of literature. Her plea for total abstinence and prohibition met a hearty response on the part of instructors and teachers. The Chairman of the State Board of Examiners was in Shreveport, and the State Examiner was present in Tyler, Texas, when she lectured and both gave their unhesitating approval of the movement and the manner in which it was presented. Madam C. J. Walker of New York City made this itinerary possible by the gift of a twenty-five dollar mileage to Mrs. Peterson. The second week in August, she is to begin a lecture tour of Georgia under the auspices of the State Woman's Christian Temperance Union (white). Dr. J. W. E. Brown, with Mrs. W. A. Fountain and other educators of the state are co-operating with the W. C. T. U. in planning her work with the hope that Georgia women of the race may measure up to the women of Pennsylvania in organized force, for the great reform sweeping the world.

COLUMBUS O CITIZEN
JULY 10 1917

THE NEGRO PROBLEM.

Editor of Citizen:

There appears to be some difference of opinion as to whether the great influx of colored people from the south is a good or a bad thing. Even the cause of the migration seems to be little understood. The general impression here is that the attraction is higher wages and more favorable conditions of living. This may be in part the cause.

But in the south they know that it is the prohibitory laws that are making that part of the country unpopular to the class of colored people who are flocking to the north. The only way in which the south, universally known to be more liberal minded about drink than any other section, could control the lawless element among the black race was to prohibit the sale of liquors. When they did this the element they thus sought to control began flocking to those states where there was no such hindrance to the appeasing of their appetites. Unfortunately Ohio is one of those states, and Columbus is getting more than her share of law-breakers.

There is a plan afoot to increase the police force. To follow that plan will add a burden of taxation of more than a hundred thousand dollars to an already swollen duplicate. Are we even sure that the increase in the police force will check the outlawry? It is impossible to put a policeman on every street corner. Nor can we expect much change in the situation, if these negroes continue here as long as they are permitted to go armed while the law abiding citizen is disarmed.

It appears to me that the remedy must come from the colored people themselves. There are many colored people in the city, people who have been with us for many years and who have proven to be good citizens. They should be aware of the danger of the present situation and should be ready to give this lawless element up to the officers of the law instead of harboring and protecting them, as is so often the case. An organization should be formed among the race to drive these lawless ones from the city.

Such an organization could locate every one of the objectionables and when they are turned over to the courts the remedy ought to be plain.

Were it true that some of the new arrivals are here because of higher wages, the danger is only a little less.

The temperance people say "we will make Ohio dry and then these drink seeking negroes will be nb longer dangerous." That may be true. But I say to them, then you must do it this year, because if you do not these lawless ones will have the balance of power in Ohio when the question comes up again to be voted upon.

J. B. KRAMER,
998 N. High-st.

Temperance - 1917

ASSETS OR LIABILITIES?

The Huston Observer 9/22/17

A complaint charging Philip Tomasino, who conducts a grocery store and beer saloon at Arnold and Matthews streets, with selling liquor on Sunday, was issued in Justice J. M. Ray's court yesterday. Tomasino was arrested by Detectives Spradley and Bryson.

The above news item appeared in Monday's Houston Chronicle. This beer saloon is situated in the Fourth Ward right among our people and is only one of the many violating the law in this respect.

There are others in this same ward and in every ward in town that sell booze Sundays and election days, too.

We know of one on Ruthven street where gambling is openly carried on daily and where the proprietor, a foreigner, is one of the chief rollers of the bones and where beer can be purchased any day in the year.

During the last election, September 6, so many Negroes congregated about the above mentioned beer saloon that people in the neighborhood thought that the proprietor was either giving away golden eggs or had "kicked the bucket."

This same condition exists on Sundays out near Boynton Chapel Methodist Episcopal church, corner Dallas and Paige, the neighborhod in which Wallace Williams was shot from behind by an officer of the law on August 26 last and instantly killed.

During the warm summer days it is no uncommon thing to see our women in semi-nude or ultra-nude attire "rushing the can" from these residential saloons and beer joints.

Many of them employ their children to pack booze for them, thus training them to become criminals and vagrants, for these ward joints are quite prolific in producing parasites and human derelicts.

Owing to lack of police protection and supervision these ward saloons and beer joints wink and laugh at the law and inwardly muse to themselves: "Catch me if you can."

We have seen their destructive work and have reached the conclusion that as far as our race is concerned these ward saloons and beer joints are liabilities rather then assets to the Negro race.

If we are to be efficient, capable, less liable to commit crimes; if bootlegging to soldiers and the danger of trouble on account of booze would be minimized; if reliable cooks and laundry-women are to be secured; if dependable help from all angles and for all avenues is a necessity, then these LIABILITIES ARE TO BE REMOVED FROM OUR RESIDENCE DISTRICTS AND CONFINED TO THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT, AND THAT AT ONCE.

WITH THESE CRIME INCUBATORS AND VAGRANT PRODUCERS IN OUR FACES DESTROYING OUR VERY LIFE WE ARE NOW REACHING THE END OF HUMAN ENDURANCE.

A real campaign to prescribe certain limits for all saloons and beer joints in the downtown district is in the making and all Negro citizens are asked to sign the petitions.

It is not a question of whether you are a pro or anti; but it is a question of whether our homes shall be free from such contaminating influences or shall our environments and surroundings continue to be so unsavory, unwholesome and unspeakably destructive?

Self-preservation, it is claimed, is the first law of nature and the man, generally speaking, who makes no effort to liberate himself from any condition or position that will ultimately destroy him, is a fit subject for an insane asylum.

Any normal man will try to protect himself from being destroyed, if it becomes necessary to call for assistance.

The Negroes of Houston, burdened with heavy liabilities, are on the verge of racial bankruptcy, but they can probably be saved and put back on their feet by getting outside aid within the next few weeks.

We cannot perform the task alone, not even as a race (sad to relate).

But with the help of the best white citizens of the community, who have seen our editorial pleas and have proffered their services unselfishly, we hope to become assets to the community.

These institutions, which are community liabilities and which are making us municipal liabilities, MUST BE MOVED FROM THE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS AND RESTRICTED TO THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT.

LET US ALL PULL TOGETHER ONCE IN A LIFETIME AND PERFORM A REAI SERVICE TO THE RACE, CITY, COUNTRY AND GOD.

ASSETS OR LIABILITIES? WHICH?

THAT SUPREME COURT DECISION

The Richmond Planet 10/3/17

It is becoming plainly apparent that the encroachment upon the rights and privileges of colored men has led to the disregard of the rights and privileges of white men as well. The socialistic wave of legislation now sweeping over the country and the flagrant disregard of personal and constitutional rights are the logical results of nearly half a century of deceit and deception by both, the individuals and the officials of the government. The railroads for years held absolute sway in the management of the legislative affairs of the States and those of the nation.

They have been succeeded by the demagogues of the type that incite to revolution and invite disaster to a Republic. The most august tribunal in the land has given recent evidences of fear of the mob and there are indications that decisions have not been rendered with that fearless disregard of consequences that has pervaded the tribunal for time immemorial. In order to permit the rights of the colored people to be trampled upon and evaded, decisions have been rendered that were of doubtful interpretation, and in some cases the vital points at issue have been disregarded.

A remarkable statement is made in the daily reports. It says:

Washington, Jan. 8.—In the most sweeping of all decisions upholding prohibition laws the Supreme Court today upheld as constitutional and valid the Webb-Kenyon law prohibiting shipments of liquor from "wet" to "dry" States. It also sustained West Virginia's recent amendment to her law prohibiting importation in interstate commerce of liquor for personal use.

The following explanation is interesting:

After having been vetoed by President Taft, who held it unconstitutional, and having been repassed by Congress over his veto, the law was sustained by the Supreme Court by a vote of 7 to 2. Leaders of the prohibition movement declared it is to their fight second only in importance to the proposed constitutional amendment. Lawyers for liquor interests who heard the decision today admitted it upheld and applied the law "in its fullest sense."

This, then, is the end. Ex-President William Howard Taft is an authority on constitutional law. In the face of the agitation now prevailing and the success now attending the prohibition law, despite the inhibitions and prohibitions in the Constitution of the United States, the Supreme Court decided by a vote of 7 to 2 that the Webb-Kenyon Act, vetoed by the Chief Executive of the nation as unconstitutional, is constitutional and within the powers vested in the Congress of the United States.

It goes to show that the greatest attorneys in this country are now "all at sea," that they have no chart of previous declarations by which they can be guided. The Supreme Court is as vacillating and as changeable as is the present occupant of the White House, although both are doing what to them seems best for the welfare of this Republic. We are reproducing in this issue an editorial from the Louisville (Ky.) *Courier-Journal*. It reads like the wailings of a lost soul and a protest of the oppressed in the Czar's dominions.

Certainly colored folks, who have been suffering from similar decisions

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 7

affecting their rights and liberties, will be afforded some satisfaction in knowing that they have distinguished companions in misery now.

The States now have the power, unrestrainedly to enact such legislation relative to the liquor traffic as they may see fit. This means that another impediment has been thrown in the way to the enactment of a law barring liquor from the United States. Certainly if the people in a State have a right to enact laws prohibiting the use and sale of intoxicants within the confines of a commonwealth and can forbid outsiders from shipping the "liquid poison" into the territory over which the legislature has jurisdiction, then the need for drastic laws by the Congress of the United States is not apparent.

We are observing carefully the probable effect of these decisions upon the constitutional rights and privileges of the citizens of the United States, regardless of race or color. The outlook is not bright for the exercise of statesmanship or the observance of great principles by the class of men now elevated to power both in the legislative and judicial branches of the government.

The Executive Department is admittedly in the hands of a politician and politicians. They are swayed by the sentiment on the outside and pay but scant attention to the Charter of Liberty, which came to us with the establishment of this Republic.

Still, we know that God reigns and His precepts and principles are immutable. The waverings of to-day will be followed by the punishments of to-morrow. It will be well if the prohibition laws are made absolutely prohibitive and then the "whited sepulchres" and hypocrites will be exposed in all of their deceptions and great principles will again be transcendent and effective in all of this land.

TEMPERANCE WORKER IN GA.

Mrs. Eliza F. Peterson of Texarkana, Ark-Tex., National Superintendent of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union Work Among Colored People recently filled three months' engagements in Pennsylvania where white ribbon women of both races made her work of lecturing, organizing unions and distributing free literature most profitable.

Immediately upon her return home, she planned a trip to seven summer normals, one in Shreveport, La., six in Texas where she spoke to 700 teachers and distributed 200 pounds of literature. Her plea for total abstinence and rohibition met with a hearty response from instructors and teachers. The chairman of the state Board of Examiners was present in Shreveport and the State Examiner was present in Tyler, Texas to her lectures and both gave their unhesitating approval of the cause and the manner in which it was presented. Mme. C. J. Walker of New York City made this trip possible by the gift of a twenty-five dollar mileage to Mrs. Peterson.

The second week in August she is to begin her lecture tour in Georgia under the auspices of the State Women's Christian Temperance Union (white). Dr. J. W. E. Bowen, also Mrs. W. A. Fountain, wife of the president of Morris Brown College, and other educators are co-operating with the W. C. T. U. to make her effort a success in Georgia, that the women of this state may equal the Pennsylvania colored women in their eager grasp at organized power for protection for home and race, from the curse of the drink evil.

BEAUMONT TEX ENTERPRISE
DECEMBER 6, 19..

ABOLISHING WARD SALOONS.

The city council of Houston has passed an ordinance, prompted by unusual conditions resulting from the cantonment being located there, which abolishes the beer saloons which were a part of every corner grocery in the residential sections. This was a good action and it should help to solve the problem that so many new citizens have thrust upon our neighbor by the bayou.

Fortunately Beaumont has none of these ward saloons. We hope we never may have them.

As a rule these little saloons are frequented by negroes and foreigners of a low type. It is impossible for the police to keep watch upon all of them, unless an officer be detailed to each place of business, which would be such an expense that it would bankrupt the city. The patrons of these places realize this and they usually act without regard to the law. The proprietors, too, often realize this condition and sell intoxicants to all who ask for them, whether or not the buyers are entitled by law to make such purchases.

When the saloons are kept within a certain area, it is not so difficult for the officers of the law to guard against trouble. Under the ordinance recently adopted at Houston, the present police force should encounter but little difficulty in keeping order. And it will be more difficult for the soldiers to buy intoxicants from bootleggers, as it was an open secret that many of these places sold cans of beer that they knew would be given to soldiers.

The ward saloon always has been a breeder of trouble and it should be abolished in every city of the United States.

Nashville, Tenn.

FEARS OF A MOSSBACK.

The Rev. Richard Manuel Bolden of New York City, though a prohibitionist, does not like the Webb-Kenyon decision. In a letter to the New York World he gives expression to his ideas as follows:

If this decision makes state authority superior to Federal authority, then to my mind the Federal constitution is invalidated. Instead of building this nation into a Union and having her citizens to believe that they are co-sovereigns, the Supreme Court is giving support to the propaganda that state laws take precedence over national laws. If this be true, each state has a right to do what it pleases with its citizens within its own jurisdiction.

You can see, therefore, that disfranchisement and segregation have the sanction of the Supreme Court.

The life, liberty and happiness of the American negro are in danger if, according to the judicial decision, the Congress of the United States can be employed to sustain and enforce state legislation. There is a large group of people, white and black, in this nation who are anxious to know the true national status of the colored man. For myself I desire to see either the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the constitution enforced or an attempt made to take them out of the Federal constitution.

It would seem that the reverend gentleman lives rather in the shadows of the past. He apparently still dwells on the Dred Scott decision and colors whatever view he may have on any subject with the trend of thought that was uppermost in the days of anti-slavery agitation and of antipathy for the South prevalent in reconstruction times.

Since the good of the Southern negro seems to be his chief thought he ought to know that no class of the country's population will be more benefited by the complete exclusion of intoxicants. But it is dislike of the Southern whites that really actuates him.

He need not disturb himself unnecessarily about the state's rights ghost. The Supreme Court, at least, had no purpose to revive it in the decision respecting the Webb-Kenyon law.

COLUMBUS O CITIZEN
JULY 11, 1917

NEGRO AND TEMPERANCE.

Editor of Citizen:

J. B. Kramer, in his letter to The Citizen (yesterday's issue) on "The Negro Problem," intimates that the heavy migration of southern colored men to the north is due to prohibition in the southern states; that is the colored population is coming north because of a love for liquor. Evidently Mr. Kramer's information is limited, and his knowledge of the negro problem ditto. The migration of colored people to the north (in quest of better wages and freedom from lynch law) was started but a year and a half ago. Practically all the southern prohibition states adopted prohibition five years and more ago. If they came north for liquor, why did they delay their start five years? Mr. Kramer forgets, or does not know, that the first district to vote dry in this city was that section lying east of 20th-st and north of Long in which is located the heaviest colored population, and 80 per cent of this population are southern colored people, yet the wets did not secure as many votes at the wet and dry election in this section as they had workers at the polls—the district going overwhelmingly dry. Every wet and dry election that has been held found the colored people voting "dry." Ask the wets and they will verify this. Mr. Kramer, unintentionally, perhaps, arrived at a false conclusion.

TEMPERANCE.

RISING SUN MD JOURNAL
DECEMBER 4, 19..

Prosperity Prevails Among The Negroes Under Prohibition Mississippi.

Rev. J. N. C. Coggin, D. D., is the Secertary for colored work of the Board of Temperance of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the only salaried colored man giving his entire time to temperance work among the negroes.

Recently he talked to Judge Longino, of Clarksdale, Miss., in regard to the effect of prohibition upon the negroes in that State.

"It has done wonders," said the Judge. "In my court, under license, we usually booked $4,500 a month in fines from your people. Under bone-dry prohibition this has been cut nearly three-fourths. The remaining one-fourth is the result of small fights and little disturbances. Prosperity abounds among the negroes in this section. They are buying automobiles, have bank accounts, their families are comfortable and their homes well fixed. This is due to the bone-dry prohibition law, for I knew these men in the days of liquor.

"We have here in Mississippi a State convict farm. I have just had a letter from the director of the farm complaining of the scarcity of labor and asking why we are not sending sentenced men there for service. I have had to reply that I have not had the men to send. Crime has become so reduced among the negroes that it seems impossible to maintain the State convict farm."

NEGRO BAPTISTS CLOSE MEETING

HOUSTON TEX CHRONICLE
JULY 29. 1917

Education and prohibition were the outstanding features of the closing sessions of the Old Southwest-Central Baptist Association, colored, which closed one of the most successful meetings in its history in Houston yesterday. Both were strongly urged in the annual address of the president, and resolutions favoring them both were adopted.

Reports showed that a large majority of the largest and most substantial churches in South Texas are identified with the association. Another feature of the meeting was a visit to the site which has been selected for a seminary and a discussion of plans for its establishment. The next meeting of the association will be held at Richmond.

The following officers were elected: Rev. E. H. Branch, D. D., moderator; Rev. J. S. Right, D. D., vice moderator; Rev. Boulding, corresponding secretary; Prof. W. M. Dickerson, recording secretary; Rev W. M. R. Mays, assistant secretary Rev. Lee, evangelist; Rev. Martin missionary.

NEGRO WOMEN TO MAKE PRO SPEECHES

DALLAS TEXAS HERALD
SEPTEMBER 5. 1917

An interesting feature of the negro prohibition campaign will be a prohibition oratorical contest at the city hall auditorium Thursday night, Sept. 6, The negro speakers will tell why prohibition is best for the negroes of Dallas county.

The following speakers have already been listed: Farilla Emory, New Hope Baptist church; Zelma Hallowell, Plymouth Congregational church; Ruby Ventress, St. Poul Methodist church; Zelma Watson, Macedonia Baptist chhurch; A. J. Wright, St. John Baptist church. Special invitation is extended to white people.

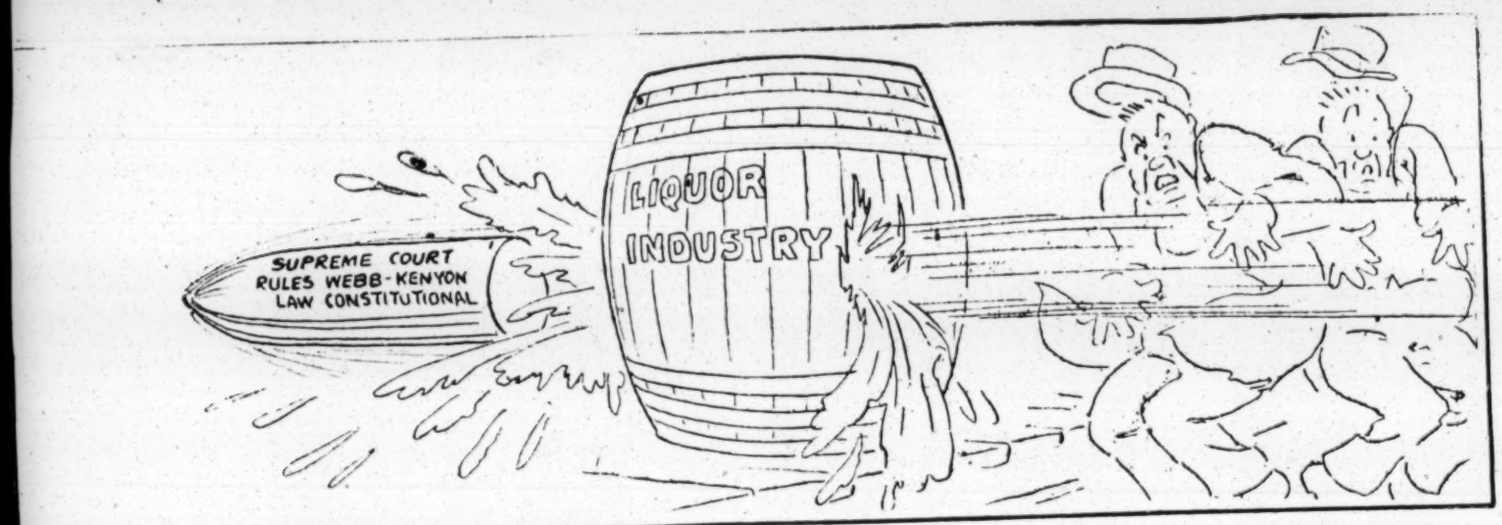
Negro Drys to Fast and Pray for Prohibition

HOUSTON TEX CHRONICLE
AUGUST 15. 1917

Negro church members are going to fast Monday until noon and engage in prayer services for the success of local option in Harris County next Tuesday. That was decided at a meeting of the negro local option forces yesterday afternoon at the headquarters at 411 Milam Street. A meeting will be held Friday near the Mount Corinth Baptist Church.

Speakers are nightly addressing negroes at Milam and Pearl. Speakers last night were Professor E. L. Blackshear, John M. [illegible] and others.

Temperance - 1917



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SIGNS OF THE TIMES. —McCutcheon in the Chicago *Tribune*.

INDIANA "REDEEMED DRY"

Literary Digest 2-24-17

INDIANA HAS "RISEN FROM THE RANKS of the damned to the ranks of the redeemed," in twelve years, according to J. Frank Hanly, her former Governor and recent Prohibition candidate for the Presidency, and the note of exultation in his remark is typical of the feeling of the anti-liquor allies as the Hoosier State enrolls as number twenty-five in the "dry" column. Indianapolis dispatches inform us that when the Senate was voting in favor of the bill a great crowd from all sections of the State was on hand and "enthusiasm ran high as hymns rang through the State House." It was probably the most remarkable gathering ever seen in the capitol, we are told, and the victory for prohibition is called clean-cut because the law is said to be one of the most stringent enacted in any State. Some claim that it will make the State "bone dry," for it not only prohibits the sale and manufacture of liquor, but the shipment of intoxicants in any quantity into the State. A man may have one gallon of whisky and twelve quarts of beer in his house when, on April 2, 1918, the bill becomes effective, yet he will not be violating the law. He may have that amount of liquor thereafter if he travels outside the State and brings it home for his own use. A person may manufacture wine, vinegar, or cider for his own use, but a druggist cannot keep liquor for sale on prescription for medicinal purposes. We read in an Evansville dispatch to the Indianapolis *News* that as a result of this law more than one thousand brewery-workers in that city will be forced to seek other employment, and that nearly three hundred saloons with more than as many bartenders will be forced out of business. The breweries, it is said, will manufacture soft drinks, but will not employ the number of men now used. We are told further that between two and three millions are invested in the wholesale and retail liquor industry, and that closing the saloons will mean a loss of $149,000 a year to Vanderburg County, in which Evansville lies. An indication of the unanimity of effort to secure this legislation is given by Mr. Edward W. Clark, secretary of the Prohibition State Committee and editor of *The Patriot Phalanx*, the Prohibition State paper, who is quoted in the press as saying:

"The result could not have been attained without the splendid and harmonious cooperation of all the antiliquor forces of Indiana in the Dry Federation. It was a pull all together for victory.

"In this hour of rejoicing there is credit enough for all organizations that had a part in the fight, and I am sure none will want to withhold a share of praise from the Prohibition party."

The Indianapolis *News* congratulates the State and both houses of the legislature for passing a measure which represents evidently the sentiment of the people of Indiana," and points out that, as the culmination of a long campaign, opposition to prohibition in the State Senate "melted away" and the final battle was won easily. The liquor lobby did its worst and its best, but "could not unseat the firm majority which stood for prohibition" for—

"Many people demonstrated long ago that they could not use liquor in moderation or to their advantage. Both from economic and moral grounds they came to the conclusion that it was pure selfishness to insist on the right for the few to drink beer and whisky when it was causing so much mischief to the many. . . . .

"The bill as passed affords time in which investments and employment in breweries, distilleries, and saloons may be converted to more useful and happy pursuits. Already brewers are contemplating uses to which their establishments may be advantageously turned in harmony with the industrial trend of this age. In the West these interests have been found readily adaptable to condensed milk, refrigerating, and canning establishments, and in the end all have prospered."

The New York *Evening Post* notes the provision of Indiana's law which permits a resident of the State to go beyond its borders and bring with him on his return not more than one gallon of whisky and twelve quarts of beer strictly for home consumption, and it observes that "this may give much encouragement to Saturday-afternoon trips to Chicago and other near-by places in irrigated territory preparatory to week-end parties." Incidentally this journal and others note the steady progress of the prohibition movement in other commonwealths, and we are reminded that as a result of the Webb-Kenyon decision of the Supreme Court, Oregon and Tennessee, which already had State-wide prohibition, have passed "bone-dry" laws, that Utah is in the "dry" column, and that a bill putting the Territory of Alaska in the same class has been sent to the President for his signature, having passed Congress in both branches. The majority of the States are now dry, remarks the New York *Evening Mail*, which calls attention to the fact, however, that the bulk of the nation's population is still in wet territory, and this journal adds:

"They will undoubtedly remain there so long as New York, Pennsylvania, and Illinois remain local-option States. The Bryan prohibition campaign is dependent on the South for its greatest support, as the list of 'dry' States shows. Down South the question is largely one of negro control. Drunkenness among negroes has terrorized many sections and is responsible for the stringent antiliquor laws there.

"While the Far West has joined the South in the movement, there is no evidence that the big States of the East are likely soon to do so. They seem to be content with existing law."

The roster of "dry" States at present reads as follows:

	Effective		*Effective*		*Effective*
Alabama	1915	Kansas	1880	Oregon	1916
Arizona	1915	Maine	1858	South Carolina	1916
Arkansas	1916	Michigan	1918	South Dakota	1918
Colorado	1916	Mississippi	1909	Tennessee	1909
Georgia	1908	Montana	1919	Utah	1917
Idaho	1916	Nebraska	1918	Virginia	1915
Indiana	1918	North Carolina	1909	Washington	1916
Iowa	1916	North Dakota	1890	West Virginia	1914
		Oklahoma	1908		

WHERE STAND YE?

The local option question to be decided on the 21st of August is purely a moral issue.

In assuming the position that it has, The Observer has no apology to offer to any man or set of men.

This paper, from its birth, has always stood for those principles that are in strict accord and harmony with the betterment of society, the uplift and solidarity of the Negro race and a greater and grander Houston.

In the campaign now being launched, The Observer will not sling mud nor deal in vituperations or invectives.

We have no emnity in our hearts for or against any of the men connected with the anti forces, but we do possess an unusual amount of sympathy for them and we do despise and detest those products that are keeping our people paupers and criminals.

Should a man be paid to vote out an institution that debauches, defames, profanes and pollutes his home and state?

In other words, should an individual receive a compensation for espousing the cause of right?

Again, how can any right thinking and intelligent Negro CONSCIENTIOUSLY, CONSISTENTLY and TRUTHFULLY support the liquor traffic?

We see the evil effects of strong drink daily on the streets and in the very gates

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

and doors of our homes. In fact, this condition confronts all Negroes who are not fortunate enough to reside in white communities in this fair city.

Read the following excerpt from the Houston Chronicle of Wednesday, July 25:

> "A woman fell from a wagon in Central Park late yesterday. Her DRUNKEN husband drove off, leaving her on the ground. The woman is now at St. Joseph Infirmary in a serious condition.
>
> "She was about to become a mother. When she fell from the wagon she could not get up for some time. When able to walk she followed the wagon for several blocks in an effort to overtake it. The man had with him a 13-months-old baby, which was in a serious condition.
>
> "The father, who had been drinking Tuesday morning, had dropped the baby on the pavement in Houston and seriously injured it. The woman was found wandering along the road on Avenue C in Central Park by some children."

The assistant district attorney, who prosecutes cases in the county court outside of the city of Houston, while not even attempting to make a speech against the open saloon, hits the damnable institution a hard blow when he uttered the following:

> "There are no saloons at Goose Creek and we would have practically no trouble there if the men didn't go over to the saloons at La Porte and get drunk."

If the saloon is all right and if the beverages sold therein are calculated to materially and mentally benefit the consumers thereof, why are saloons the first and only places of business closed during riots and other upheavals?

If the saloon and residential beer joints are a blessing to the communities in which they are located, why don't they place some in white settlements out of the business district?

If the open saloon is a community builder, why don't they locate some in front of white houses of worship and in close proximity like they do to the Negro churches?

We protested loud and long, as a race, against such rank and unjust discrimination and all that we have received in return has been a "horse laugh" and possum grin.

Now since we possess the strength to wipe them off of the map of Harris County, let us refuse to be tools for any man or men to the detriment of our race.

On the heels of emancipation came enfranchisement and the Negro, amid his new conditions and environments, was an easy tool for the designing politician.

It was a very small thing to purchase a Negro's vote, despite the fact that the result was offtimes to his real material detriment.

It was hoped that Christian and secular education would elevate the race from that vassalage and tool stage and place it upon higher ground, where the members of the race would and could decide issues like men.

Money will work wonders.

Judas betrayed Jesus Christ for thirty pieces of silver and then became so disgusted with the transaction that he committed suicide.

But the suicide act was too late to atone for his boneheaded act and an innocent man was led to the ignominious death on Calvary's rugged heights, where He breathed His last between two thieves.

Righteous causes need no slush fund to encourage and entice men to advocate and stand by their principles. They appeal to our sense of honor and intelligence, it matters not what the consequences are.

The liquor interests are more concerned in the Negro vote than any other, because they derive the bulk of the profits from our race.

No wonder they can flash money so profusely and abundantly to all who promise to vote to keep the county wet.

They know that if the county remains wet the Negro himself will repay that money and with interest in less time than thirty days.

And if the county enters the dry column, there are plenty Negroes in other wet counties in the State who will continue to fill their coffers, thereby enriching those whose chief job is to keep the race poor and indigent render them inefficient, incapable, unreliable criminals and at last sending their precious souls down to hell and bitter woe.

Society's greatest enemy, both ancient and modern, is the saloon.

It operates in open defiance of all the laws of society and we have been too cowardly to dare remove it from our midst.

We see its blighting effect upon human beings of all colors, creeds and countries.

In the very face of such demonstrations of its hellish and infernal influence and power, we have been and are yet too stupid and indifferent anent the real happiness and well-being of our fellowmen.

Let us face the issue as it really is and not as it professes to be.

Every vote cast for the retention of the saloon means additional lunatics, criminals, paupers, profligates, spendthrifts, drunkards, and many other deformed and "unformed" men and women.

Its abolition means less poverty, less crime, fewer lunatics, peace, prosperity and homes uncontaminated by the evil influences of alcohol.

The saloon offers you destruction in no unmistakable manner.

The removal of this deleterious and destructive institution will mean life and that abundantly.

WHERE STAND YE?

HEARSAY EVIDENCE VS. FACTS ON LIQUOR CONSUMPTION.

The Journal & Guide

A circular sent out broadcast over the country recently by the Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, contained the statement that "fourth-fifths of the mail orders for liquors which go into the State of Georgia are consumed by Negroes." Feeling that this estimate was rather exaggerated The Journal and Guide wrote Mr. Deets Pickett, research secretary of the board requesting the source of the information upon which the statement was based. After a delay of two weeks Mr. Pickett replied as follows:

> "The statement that four-fifths of the liquor shipped into Georgia are consigned to Negroes was taken from The Atlanta Constitution. However, I should say that the Superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League of Alabama told me the same thing, and in Birmingham I myself saw two lines of people waiting their turn at the express office. In one line there were sixty Negroes and two white people. I have forgotten the number in the other line but the proportion was about the same.
>
> "It is a very distressing fact that under present conditions prohibition is not lessening the consumption of liquor among Negroes to anything like the extent it is lessening liquor consumption among white people."

We expected the Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals to reply that its assumption was based upon the records of shippers and express companies. We are disappointed that its research department should undertake to support such a serious charge of racial immorality and human depravity upon what The Atlanta Constitution "said," and what the Superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League of Alabama "told him," and what he himself "saw" in two lines of people waiting at an express office to receive liquor.

What is there in The Atlanta Constitution's statement except assumption to support its claim? Likewise the statement of the Alabama Anti-Saloon League Superintendent? And how does Mr. Pickett know that the Negroes he saw in line at the express office consumed all the liquor they received? How many chauffeurs and butlers and hirelings of white men were there to receive liquor for their employers. It is a fact, a well established fact, that many white men who do not wish to attract to themselves unfavorable notoriety order liquor in the names of their colored servants. Negroes consume a great deal of liquor, but it is hardly fair to the race to send broadcast an unqualified statement based upon hearsay evidence that Negroes consume four-fifths of the liquor shipped into a State.

With the last paragraph of Mr Pickett's letter we are more in agreement. It is undoubtedly true that prohibition under present conditions is not lessening the consumption of whiskey among Negroes to the extent that it is lessening liquor consumption among white people, but this is not remarkable considering the fact that temperance is a matter of self-restraint, and considering the advantages, educational and otherwise, of the whites over the blacks, and the further fact that the Southern States spend an average of twenty dollars for the education of white youth to every one dollar spent for the education of Negro youth it is not so remarkable that the whites have more self-restraint and are more amenable to prohibition legislation.

Negro Prohibitionists To Meet October 10

10/6/17

The Houston Observer

The friends of the prohibition cause and all who are opposed to the ward saloons and beer joints operating in the residential sections of colored people—those who believe that the beer joints should not flourish and grow under the shadow of our church steeple—are hereby requested to meet at the Carnegie library in connection with the City Ministers' Alliance Wednesday, October 10, at 4 p. m.

W. L. DAVIS, Chairman,
Local Option Committee.
E. O. SMITH, Secretary.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 7

Temperance – 1917

HOUSTON, TEXAS, SATURDAY NOVEMBER 24, 1917

INSIDIOUS, INJURIOUS INSTITUTIONS

Houston is in the throes of the worst period of bootlegging in its history, which is assuming greater and more alarming proportions daily.

The Observer has preached against these insidious and infamous ward saloons and beer joints for months and has pleaded for the restriction of all saloons and beer joints to the downtown district, where better police protection and supervision can be secured.

Daily occurrences among the bootleggers and soldiers demonstrate the correctness and expediency of The Observer's contention, for the ward saloons and beer joints are supplying the bootleggers and soldiers the major portion of their booze.

There are only two feasible ways to reduce this practice to a minimum and maintain the soldiers' efficiency, viz: Let the government close all saloons and beer joints in Houston or let the city council enact an ordinance RESTRICTING ALL SALOONS AND BEER JOINTS TO THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT.

The enormous number of arrests of bootleggers and drunken soldiers proves that—despite the vigilance of the police department and the Fosdick commission—the situation is a grave one and immediate action to relieve same is imperative.

Cheap politics must be thrown to the winds and the officials must rise above sinister influences that would thwart them in their patriotic duty and render this needed service to the government and society.

The city council of Houston has the power to enact an ordinance RESTRICTING ALL SALOONS AND BEER JOINTS TO THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT and they should exercise their authority along this line.

Not only are these ward grogshops ruining soldiers and converting civilians into criminals, but they are DEFAMING AND DESTROYING THE HOMES OF 35,000 TO 40,000 OF THE CITY'S BEST CITIZENS, who are powerless to move them, to say nothing of DEFYING AND DEFILING OUR SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

A soldier in uniform was seen leaving a beer joint in the Fourth Ward Saturday with a BASKET FULL OF BOTTLED BEER. This joint SELLS BOOZE TO ANYBODY AND AT ANY TIME and should be closed instanter.

The Observer views with grave concern the future safety of the soldiers and Negro civilians, and white citizens, too, IF THESE 220 RESIDENTIAL SALOONS AND BEER JOINTS ARE TO REMAIN AMONG US.

The Observer again pleads and prays that the city council pass an ordinance RESTRICTING ALL SALOONS AND BEER JOINTS TO THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT.

Do Not Cheat Yourself

The Apostle Paul, writing to the church at Corinth in I Corinthians 8:9, advises his readers to "take heed lest by any means this liberty (or power) of yours become a stumbling block to them that are weak."

Solomon, the sage of the Old Testament period, states that "wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

Isaiah, that fearless and peerless major prophet, who always kept in close touch with Jehovah, in Isaiah 5:11, says: "Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them."

These and many other Biblical quotations show the damaging effects of strong drink upon mankind even in the Old Testament dispensation.

There is only one way to render strong drink harmless and ineffectual and that is to uproot and destroy the entire traffic.

Would any sensible man parley and compromise with a poisonous viper? Yet at last strong drink "biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder."

Intoxicating beverages are conscienceless and ere long put their ill-fated victims in the same condition.

The liquor traffic is an evil from beginning to end.

Consult the latest scientific discussions of human efficiency and see if they encourage and advocate strong drink.

Ask the leading physicians about the constructive properties of alcoholic products.

If these beverages are conducive to one's betterment, why is it that all employers are demanding and seeking laborers for all stations who are total abstainers?

Why don't the leading bankers go to the saloons when they need clerical assistance and men with executive ability?

If the liquor traffic is an honorable and decent business, why is it that it is the only institution that a man will operate and not allow his daughter or wife near it?

If it is a boon to society why are laws made and enacted to keep all minors and women out of saloons and all kindred institutions, such as the gambling den, pool halls and other places of vice fed and made poss by the operation of the infernal and dan able liquor traffic and open saloon?

Some argue that prohibition does not pro hibit.

This is all buncombe and tommyrot, since we have lived in towns that were wet and there after they became dry.

A few bootleggers ply their trade, but they are forced to operate on the q. t. and hence they are few and far between.

Our duty is to vote the booze traffic out of business and then let those who are elected to these responsible positions by the votes of the other race see that the law in enforced

Since we have no voice in selecting and electing the officers to execute the law, we are impotent to remove them for laxity in official duties and for their winking at the violation of the prohibition or any other law.

But let this not deter us from doing our duty to smash this mighty monster stalking abroad in our land like Goliath before the camp of Israel.

Let us as David, who threw aside the accoutrements of the king, and dared that fiend to challenge and defy God's chosen people, arise in our might and with our own weapon (not the weapon of some one else) slay the devil and beast that has brought more woe and sorrow to the human race than all the wars and rumors of war.

Our opponents have no ground on which to stand and as a consequence at their meeting of Monday night at Independence Heights, attended by about six men from this city and four or five from the Heights, they launched a campaign of mud-slinging.

Why not discuss the issue, gentlemen, like men and cut out the back-woods politics?

One of the vice-presidents informed us that they put his name on their slate without his consent and he did not intend to participate in their meetings. Rumor further has it that still another vice is hot in the collar, too.

From reports conveyed to this sanctum (we do not vouch for the truthfulness of the

YOUNGSTOWN O TELEGRAM
SEPTEMBER 27, 1917

COLORED NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

The Amanda Smith W. C. T. U. will meet at 2:30 p. m. Friday at the Third Baptist church. All members are urged to attend as a report of the delegates to the convention will be made.

Logan lodge No. 4, K. of P., will meet at 8 p. m. Thursday at Foresters hall, 133 W. Federal street. Business of importance.

Class meeting will be held at 8 p. m. Friday at the Oak Hill avenue A. M. E. church.

oir rehearsal will be held at 8 Friday at the various churches city.

Fagan of McKinnie street is g.

ON TEX CHRONICLE
17, 1917

Antis to Meet.

t the Lincoln Theatre, aspices of the Harris Cou Negro Anti-Prohibition League, there will be a free discussion of anti-prohibition, free moving picture show and free singing by the Invincible male quartette and Florodora female quartette under the direction of Prof. J. F. Felton a product of Dr. Booker T. Washington's school at Tuskegee.

The league cordially invites the public to come out and hear the speakers—E. Z. Williams, C. R. Robinson, Prof A. B. Hardy and R. W. B. Gould. F. I. Richardson will preside.

The First Established and Most Complete Newspaper Clipping Bureau in the World

WEEKLY REPUBLICAN

Springfield, Mass

1917

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL

While The Republican, it is needless to say, does not entertain the predominant southern view of the Negro there is a particular feature of the survey of the present Negro exodus from the South into our northern states, which is printed on another page, that must command immediate attention. The correspondent's warning concerning the prohibition of the saloon is timely. Most southern states are "dry," while in our northeastern states the liquor traffic flourishes. The late Booker T. Washington believed that prohibition in the South was a great blessing to the Negro race; nor is there any doubt that the evil effect of the saloon on that race was a primary cause for the prohibition legislation which the southern states enacted. If, now, there is to be a large migration of southern Negroes into Connecticut and Massachusetts, what are these New England states going to do about whisky?

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

same) the man, who was elected to hold the funds which another distinguished gentleman has been giving out to "de bretheren," is up in arms and says that he will vote the prohibition ticket.

If the saloon is right then the church of Jesus Christ should close up and hand over its commission to the liquor traffic.

There is also a bunch of whiskey-drinking and therefore whiskey-controlled preachers, who are attempting to derail our present local option "Sunshine Special," but let them beware!

They claim that a layman is trying to lead the ministers and other rot as a subterfuge to use their intoxicated influence for the liquor traffic and "get theirs."

They are of the opinion that those who are managing the campaign are making a barrel of money, when, as a matter of fact, they are spending their personal means to help win this fight.

We boast of our manhood and citizenship, but when a moral issue confronts us these self-appointed leaders think that the white people should put up the money to do everything.

Despite the absence of these whiskey-soused elders the cause is moving on and in the strength of our God we intend to carry the battle to the gates and win the day for Christ and righteousness.

In all great undertakings the faithful few are compelled to do the bulk of the work and this campaign will prove no exception.

Those in charge of affairs have made excellent headway and already many anti votes have been promised to our side.

We need real men and not pussy-footing, vacillating bipeds, be he minister or layman, saint or sinner.

The remuneration for rendering service in espousing the cause of right is not to be determined in dollars and cents.

This is a fight for men and women who are true and tried and who will lose sight of denominational and professional line and unite for the good of the cause and to completely rout and annihilate the forces of evil and retrogression.

Our race's sad condition and plight, precipitated by the reign of John Barleycorn, demands instant action.

If you are a man, show your colors; if you are a jelly-fish, jump back into the sea of nothing from whence you sprang.

MEN, not pants, are wanted in this fight. Choose your place.

But we urge you, dear brethren, in all sincerity and by the mercy of Jesus Christ our Lord and for the safety and sanctity of the home. **"Do not cheat yourself."**

NEGRO LOCAL OPTION FORCES LINING UP

The Houston Chronicle 7/28/17

The colored local option forces met at their central headquarters Tuesday afternoon and amid much enthusiasm appointed committees and launched their campaign.

The following committees were appointed:

Executive Committee from county-at large: Rev. W. C. Cannon and Prof. C. B. Sanders, Harrisburg; Rev. R. S. Carr, Korville; Rev. G. R. Alford, Ed Garrett, Rev. Wm. Jones, Houston Heights; W. R. Knox and P. E. Eagleton, Independence Heights; George Yoakum, Clinton; C. S. Doswell, Hockley; Revs. R. G. Gilmore, B. R. Booker, O. L. Bonner, J. L. Moseley, B. W. Whitfield, John Somerville, Jerry Martin.

Publicity: C. F. Richardson, chairman; G. H. Webster, C. A. Gilmore, E. D. Pierson, Dr. B. F. Barlow.

Music: Dr. T. E. Bryant, chairman; Dr. C. A. George, S. B. Williams, L. L. Lockhart, Miss M. E. B. Isaacs.

Public Speakers: Rev. E. J. Howard, chairman; M. B. Lilly, R. M. Catchings, R. T. Andrews, Dr. B. J. Covington, Dr. H. E. Lee, E. O. Smith, Rev. W. H. Logan.

Church campaign: Rev. F. L. Lights, chairman; Revs. Wm. Johnson, D. E. Simms, J. R. Burdett, W. D. Lewis, James Pendleton, E. H. Hamilton, W. Q. Hunter, C. W. Holmes, J. O. Williams.

Finance: J. B. Bell, chairman; J. J. Hardeway, N. S. Adkins, W. E. Miller, F. T. Lee, J. H. Harmon, Dr. H. M. Whitby.

Ward organizers: W. E. Green, chairman; Charles Harper, J. J. Green, B. H. Grimes, Revs. G. B. M. Turner, E. H. Hamilton, Wm. Greene.

Ladies auxiliaries: Mrs. F. L. Callion, chairman; Mesdames Jno. M. Adkins, G. B. M. Turner, W. H. Logan, H. E. Lee, Charlotte McGinnis, Miss E. K. Fairchild.

Headquarters have been opened at 419 1-2 Milam street. Next central meeting will be held at old Bayou City Drug Store stand Tuesday, July 31, 3 p. m.

* * *

To the Voters of Harris County:

Last year in a fair contest, in the constitutional form, we won the right to have the question of state-wide prohibition submitted to the voters of Texas. By high-handed and shameless methods, the Houston democratic convention refused to write this constitutional demand in the platform. By fillibuster and corrupt methods, the small liquor minority in the legislature defeated every effort to submit. The unscrupulous and overwhelming power of the liquor governor was used to defeat the will of the people. Ever since the democratic convention in Houston, those who are opposed to the saloon have been discussing ways and means of destroying the liquor interest's dominance of our state politics. Three months ago, a call was issued for mass meetings in all the wet counties in Texas, to decide on the question of holding local option elections. In pursuance of this call, an open mass meeting was held in the Harris County court house on July 14, 1917; open to all, pros and antis alike, and this meeting decided unanimously to call an immediate election. Indeed, the leaders had to restrain the ardor of the meeting in order to have time to organize. At the meeting held at the court house July 14, every angle was fully debated, and every issue duly considered, and after a whole year of prayer and waiting, the first local option campaign ever called in Harris County was launched.

We want to assure Harris County we will not inject bitterness or enmity in the campaign. It is not a personal matter. We fighting the saloon and drink. We have no animosity against anyone, nor will any personalities be injected in the campaign. If the other side does so, we shall not answer nor imitate them. We mean to wage a clean hard, educational campaign, and if we can not win this time, this fight will make the next fight two years hence a certain pro victory.

We had hoped for relief from the national government, but when following the lead of every nation at war, an attempt was made to conserve the vast food resources wasted in the manufacture of drink, the anti minority in congress threatened the president in his hour of need, with the blocking of the whole war program, if booze was cut out. Our great president was compelled to ask the pro majority to give up the fight. The liquor industry admits that it used 618,000,000 bushels of grain a year in the manufacture of drink.

In this hour when our land faces the task of feeding the world, the liquor industry blocked the president's whole war program, preferring to starve the world and bring defeat to us and our allies rather than even temporarily curtail the manufacture of booze.

The cost of this local option election will be saved many times over if we win this fight. There are 447 saloons in Harris County. It is a well known fact they can hardly run on less than $20 sales a day. Say $25 average—that makes $11,175 a day, or nearly $3,500,000 per year. This is only the financial saving and does not count the saving of lost efficiency of the drinker as a worker in this time of our country need, nor the cost of crime, pauperism, insanity and disease. Gentlemen, the money spent in this campaign will be the best spent money that Harris County ever saw.

It has been said that the campaign had been foisted on us by outside influences. This is not so. The campaign was instituted by, and is being run by Harris County men. Not one of our workers but is a resident of the city, and if certain distinguished gentlemen from the outside speak, they will be chosen by us and will not be "broken down politicians."

But finally we are told we can not win. But Germany will never be defeated if the allies wait until they are ready to win. We are going to defeat German militarism, because Belguim died at Liege, and the gallant little English army was crucified at Mons. Very few counties have been won by one election. The fight is on in Harris County, and if the pros don't fight now, we will miss our greatest opportunity to ever win.

The submission campaign last year won 3000 extra votes over the "normal" minority in Harris County, and this campaign of education is going to win 3000 more. This may not be quite enough, but it will bring us certain victory, but it will bring those who are weak-hearted about the fight to know the vast numbers of life-long antis who are coming to us to bid us God-speed, and proffer help, might change their tune. The canvas made this week has assured us of a good fighting chance. The shame of the whiskey governor's acts has literally broken the back of the whiskey party. Thousands of decent antis are done with booze. From all over the county comes promise of victory. If our pro friends will just help us carry on a great educational, food conservation, energy-savink, and soul-saving campaign, booze will be soon buried in Harris County.

All people should rally to this fight, and destroy the saloon power in Texas politics.

HARRIS COUNTY LOCAL OPTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

R. E. BURT, Chairman;
A. S. MOODY, Vice Chairman;
JOHN S. STEWART,
R. W. DUNDAS,
CHARLES MURPHY,
HARRY M. WHITE,
R. M. FARRAR,
H. W. CAROTHERS,
LEWIS FOGLE.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 7

Temperance - 1917

Are Ward Saloons Beneficial?

The Houston Observer. 9/11/17

Booze is a powerful thing, but unlike most things, it works in only one direction and that is for bad.

The Observer has seen the great harm and injury the ward or residential saloons and beer joints are doing the Negroes of Houston and it is more determined than ever to have the city council enact a law or decide by referendum vote the restriction of all saloons to the downtown districts.

More trouble is hatched and brewed and stewed in some of the ward hell-holes than in certain precincts of the devil's habitation.

The well-meaning Negro in Houston has a hard row to hoe.

The entire race is judged by the actions of the vicious and trifling element and yet the institutions that render our people thus are permitted to thrive on every corner by municipal law and Negro patronage.

A grave situation confronts us here and our future as good citizens of this community depends upon its outcome.

If the ward saloons and beer joints and dives are to continue in our midst, The Observer recommends that the school board suspend its educational operations among our people and that the churches close their doors because our homes will soon be destroyed and we will need no schools or churches.

Glance at a local daily and read of a crap game and invariably it is in close proximity to a beer joint or saloon.

In some of these joints Negroes are allowed to gamble by the proprietor, a foreigner, who comes to this country without any morals and cares nothing about American morals and ethics.

HE COMES HERE TO MAKE MONEY AND IF HE MUST PRODUCE CRIMINALS TO FILL HIS COFFERS, the Negro race, because he pitches camp in our midst, affords him the necessary material.

More is expected of our race than any other on the face of the earth and yet greater and more destructive obstacles are placed in our pathway.

How can we make progress in the face of such impediments and hindrances?

The Negro trusts too much to the Lord.

The Lord has endowed us with brains and has permitted us to have them developed and He expects us to give an account of our stewardship here below.

Therefore, if we are to liberate ourselves from the throes of these crime incubators, vagrant producers and nurseries, WE MUST ACT FOR OURSELVES AND THAT WITH A PETITION to the honorable mayor and city commissioners, signed by the legal and qualified voters of the race.

Most of these bootleggers, who plied their trade at the army camp, secured their liquor at residential saloons.

The private of the 24th Infantry who was struck by the officer last week was soused and he secured his drink from some ward booze peddler, and he in turn purchased his goods from a ward saloon.

It is a fact that a deal of drinking was done by the Negro troopers of the 24th Infantry and most of the booze came from ward saloons.

At some of these ward saloons women and minors can purchase booze and it was the women who carried the "fire water" and beer in such large quantities to the soldiers.

All of these acts are in direct violation of the law, but the average man operating a ward saloon is after money wholly and solely and he winks at the law.

The cause for these disturbances must be removed and that forthwith.

There is only one way to remedy existing conditions and that is to abolish all ward saloons and beer joints and restrict them to the downtown district.

Other cities saw what great injury was being inflicted upon their Negro citizens by residential or ward saloons and hence they enacted ordinances restricting ALL SALOONS TO THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT.

Some of the white citizens have expressed themselves as being surprised with the statement in last week's Observer that "in the Fourth Ward saloons stand opposite the church of Jesus Christ and often men and women in drunken brawls disturb the religious services."

A visit to Bebee Tabernacle Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, corner San Felipe and Arthur or Friendship Baptist Church, San Felipe and Heiner will prove our assertion to be correct.

The Gregory School, Fourth Ward, where over 800 of our children attend school, daily, is completely surrounded by beer saloons, one being opposite the school on the north side (Cleveland Street) in the same block; and there are at least four or five more within from two to five blocks of the same school.

Take the Dunbar School, Fifth Ward, and there is one ward saloon one block from the school on Nance and Clark and then there is another with a bad record about one and one-half block from this school on Hill and Glass.

It was near this place that the officers made their raid Sunday and arrested seventeen Negroes with a large quantity of booze in their possession.

Boynton Chapel M. E. Church, Dallas and Paige, is completely surrounded by saloons. There are two at Dallas and Ennis; one at Paige and Polk; one at Dallas and Shepherd; several within from one to two blocks of the church.

The services at this church are often interrupted by boisterous and loud-mouthed saloon frequenters and at times it is necessary for the church-goers to walk over these parasites to get to their services even on Sunday.

The congregation has recently constructed a $3,500.00 edifice and yet they are annoyed by these booze fighters and the products of the ward dives. They sell beer Sunday, election days and on all other occasions. A questionable house also sits diagonally across from this church.

The members of the Galilee Baptist church on Montgomery road have asked that no saloons be situated in their face and despite this fact a saloon is being built in front of them and will be open for business in a few days.

Here is the law on that point, which this city has and is still ignoring:

REVISED STATUTES OF TEXAS, 1911, provides:

"Art. 7447. LICENSE NOT TO BE GRANTED FOR BUSINESS WITHIN THREE HUNDRED FEET OF A CHURCH:

"The county judge shall in no case grant a license in any village, town or city, where the proposed place of business is within three hundred (300) feet of a church, school or other educational or charitable institution, the measurement to be along the property lines of the street fronts, and from front door to front door, and in a direct line across intersections where they occur; provided, the proposed place of business is not within a business block, or within three hundred feet thereof, as such block is defined in the preceding article."

We could cite other cases of direct violation of the law, but it is not necessary here.

We want these ward saloons moved and confined and restricted to the downtown district where our homes will be freed from their evil and contaminating influences and

DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH PEEL 7

where they can receive proper police protection and vigilance.

We want criminality in our race reduced and if possible completely blotted out, but the retention of the residential saloons will increase our criminal record.

The Observer requests that every Negro citizen, who has qualified by paying his poll tax, sign the petition to be presented to the honorable mayor and city commissioners of the City of Houston begging and imploring them to restrict all saloons to the down-town district.

Sign the petition and let us see if the white citizens of this city want us to remain amidst such unsavory, evil, deleterious and destructive environments.

ARE WARD SALOONS BENEFICIAL?

Perhaps they are to the proprietors, but not to this hard, struggling race of ours and our only salvation and safety in this city depend upon their elimination and abolition from the wards.

National W. C. T. U. Planning Tour Over State of Alabama

Mrs. J. W. Sexton of Mobile, National Assistant Superintendent of W. C. T. U. work among colored people is planning work over Alabama for the purpose of enlisting the women of the race in the white ribbon army and creating a stronger sentiment for total abstinence for the individual and prohibition for the nation. She has a burning message which every one will do well to hear. She is a great race woman, and withal a consecrated woman who believes that the women of the race must help in the closing days of the conflict between the Church and the saloon in America.

Southwestern Christian Advocate 3/3/16

She led successfully the largest union of the race in Nashville and was made president of the colored W. C. T. U. of Tennessee, which office she held till her husband, Dr. Sexton, was transferred to Alabama. He is pastor of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Mobile. Mrs. Sexton has done a splendid work. Recently she was instrumental in having in the city the national superintendent of the department, Mrs. Eliza E. Peterson of Texas. It is impossible to estimate the good which was accomplished in that city much of which was due to the efforts of Mrs. Sexton.

We hope pastors and congregations of all denominations will contribute to her success by a cordial welcome and helping her financially as she is giving of her time free to the good of the race.

TROY N Y EVE RECORD
SEPTEMBER 12, 1917

REPORTS AND ADDRESSES BY W. C. T. U. DELEGATES

Closing Features of the Annual Convention of the Rensselaer County Body at the Troy Central Y. M. C. A.

Officers elected at the annual convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Rensselaer county, held in the lecture room of the Y. M. C. A. building yesterday, follow: President, Mrs. Harriet L. Doyle; vice president, Mrs. W. W. Hunt; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Walter Dorr; recording secretary, Miss Elsie Kelly; treasurer, Mrs. B. A. Maxwell; Loyal Temperance Legion secretary, Miss Margaret Kling.

Afternoon Session.

During the memorial service with which the afternoon session opened, tributes to the departed members who have passed away during the year were offered by Miss Orr for Mrs. Enullia Bowman; Mrs. Sarah Gaston for Mrs. Charles Wood; Mrs. Jarvis Roberts for Mrs. D. T. Baker; Mrs. H. Clay Bascom for Mrs. Van Steenbergh; Mrs. Wallace Bryce for Mrs. G. W. Woodhall; Miss J. T. D. Willett for Mrs. Williams. The service was conducted by Miss Willett.

Mrs. B. A. Maxwell, the treasurer, gave her annual report, showing receipts of $374.84; disbursements of $240.86; balance of $133.98. The sum of $45 had been received from the mile of dimes plan of raising funds.

Miss Millicent Corps sang a temperance song as a soprano solo, with Mrs. William H. McLaughlin as piano accompanist.

Reports of superintendents of departments followed. Mrs. Charles Streeter reported for the fairs and open air meetings, many of these having been discontinued. Miss Margaret Kling, for the franchise, gave a most encouraging review of the work during the past year. Over 1200 pages of literature had been distributed, local pastors had been interviewed, personal work had been constant and untiring. The eleven states in which the franchise has been given to women were named. South Dakota, Oklahoma, Michigan and New York were spoken of as to vote on this question in November. Interesting details concerning the evils of having saloons near the soldiers' camps were given.

Flower Mission and Relief Work.

Mrs. J. H. Simons told of the flower mission and relief work, showing hundreds of ministrations of flowers offered, of delicacies given, of garments and other needed articles bestowed. Meetings had been held at the county house during the year, delicacies, sweetmeats and social meetings being added to the county house work. The sum of $118.97 had been expended.

Mrs. A. B. Schauber, for health and medical temperance, spoke of a meeting held and money bestowed. Mrs. Isabel Mallery, superintendent of the press department, being absent, informal reports were given by various members showing many columns had been published in the newspapers.

Mrs. Jarvis Roberts, for prison reform, told of visits made to the jail, leaflets given, gospels, Testaments, Bibles, hymn books and good stories bestowed. Pledges had been signed, clothes and flowers and other needed articles had been given, the Scripture in foreign languages had been distributed.

Mrs. H. E. Bartlett reported for systematic giving.

Mrs. Wallace Bryce told of the Sunday school work, temperance lessons being included in the year's work.

Mrs. Mary Gain, for social meetings and red letter days, told of 36 social meetings and 17 red letter days celebrated. There had been 84 members added to the association in this department.

Miss Margaret Kling, for the Loyal Temperance Legion, spoke of the work of the four chapters, which have done excellent service.

Work Among Colored People.

Mrs. James Carlile, for the work among the colored people, spoke of the organization of this union during the past year, the distribution of literature and the meetings held.

Mrs. Frances Ingram, for the soldiers' and sailors' department of work, showed 75 working in this department, Red Cross and Navy League knitting and relief sewing accomplished. Bibles had been distributed and $10 had been expended. Temperance literature and publication were reported by Mrs. H. Clay Bascom, showing a large number of publications distributed, two meetings held, $8 expended.

Miss Kling spoke of the scientific temperance instruction, giving details showing much literature had been distributed in the public schools.

Mrs. Mary J. Todd reviewed the history of the work in Rensselaer county since the association was organized September 20, 1887. During the first year ten unions were enrolled. The Troy Central Union was organized nearly forty years ago, January 18, 1878, when Frances Willard came to Troy and formed the circle. The first place of meeting was at the First Baptist church, Rev. George C. Baldwin, D. D., being instrumental in starting the organization. The progress of the various departments showed the growth of the work, and the devoted energy which had been bestowed by the women who engaged in the labors.

Mrs. Mary J. Todd told briefly of what the mothers' meetings had accomplished. Mrs. Harriet L. Doyle then gave the president's annual address, telling of the many encouraging indications toward national prohibition and strongly advocating this measure.

The convention voted to have the corresponding secretary write to the congressman of the district asking him to vote for this measure. The committees on courtesies, enrollment and press reported. Sixty members were in attendance, seven visitors and newspaper representatives.

Mrs. I. D. Van Valkenburgh of Albany, formerly of Troy, gave an interesting talk concerning the suffrage campaign. C. E. Dealing of Cartage, a member of the state prohibition committee, was present during the afternoon and gave a short talk concerning the value of the work.

Prohibition and its Benefit to Negroes

After completing a tour of the Southern States, especially those that have state-wide prohibition, Colonel Richard E. Holz of the Salvation Army is quoted as saying: "The South will never return to the wet division." In response to the question as to what effect prohibition had had on the colored people Colonel Holz is quoted in the following statement: "Among the colored people the law has worked wonders. The colored man has been saved from his greatest enemy and is beginning to have a new vision and realize his possibilities. He is going to work, saving his money and supporting his family."

Southwestern Christian Advocate 3/16

PROHIBITION CUTS CONVICT SUPPLY

Birmingham Ledger
Feb 23, 1917.

Negro Exodus, Etc., Also Among the Causes

Advices from Montgomery are to the effect that there is a shortage of convict labor and that the president of the state board of convict inspectors finds it difficult to supply the number requested by companies using convict labor. Mr Robers is making readjustments so that the shortage will not bear more seriously on one class of operator than another.

Four reasons are assigned for the decrease in state convicts:

First—Prohibition.

Second—Many negroes have left the state.

Third—In order to obtain farm labor, farmers are confessing judgment and accepting the services of persons convicted of minor felonies.

Fourth—Many courts have not been in operation since November.

RECORD

Philadelphia, Pa.

Woman to Work for Negroes.

Mrs. Eliza E. Peterson, national superintendent of work among colored people for the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, comes to Philadelphia today for a campaign of two weeks among her people. The County W. C. T. U. is arranging a number of meetings to be addressed by her. The meetings so far scheduled are for Frankford next Sunday afternoon, in the church on Sellers street, east of Oxford; Germantown, Sunday evening; Berean Presbyterian Church, South College avenue, next Wednesday evening, and Sunday afternoon, March 18; Church of St. Simon, Twenty-second and Reed streets, Tuesday evening, March 20.